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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Executive for Administration and Management DATE: 23 September 1947

FROM : Assistant Director for Operations

SUBJECT: OSO Request for Assistance from Documents Section, OO

1. Attached herewith is an OSO request for assistance from the Documents Section, dated 28 August 1947, as well as memoranda on the same subject from the Acting Chief of the Foreign Documents Branch and [REDACTED]

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2. This request is typical of such requests coming directly to our Foreign Documents Branch and [REDACTED] for translation work. These requests raise a number of problems which we feel should be referred to your office in an attempt to get from you the necessary decisions or guidance. The issues raised are:

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✓ a. Whether or not a CIA office, such as ORE and OSO, may properly pass requirements directly to the branches of the Office of Operations

b. Whether or not these requests should more properly come through OCD as do the requests from member agencies in order that they may be given priorities and collection request numbers.

c. This particular request suggests that the Foreign Documents Branch in effect lend out some of its employees to OSO thereby losing operational control of them, which, in our opinion, is undesirable, particularly from the point of view of efficiency.

d. This particular request also raises the point as to whether or not the employees of the Foreign Documents Branch can be rated as having a different security classification, whereas all have been passed by the Investigations Branch of I & S with a few exceptions now in the mill. We believe that in many cases there is no more of a requirement for secure personnel in doing OSO work than in doing other projects referred to us.

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e. If the Foreign Documents Branch and the [REDACTED] are to be called upon by member agencies and the offices within CIA for a good deal of straight translation work, the question is raised whether or not Mr. [REDACTED] ^{and Col. White} have sufficient personnel, or whether it may be desirable to establish somewhere a pool of straight translators.

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3. This entire subject has been discussed by telephone by the undersigned with [REDACTED] on this date, and this memorandum is

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To: Executive for A & M



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simply furnished as a supporting paper.

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EDWIN L. SIBERT
Brigadier General, USA
Assistant Director for Operations

Attachments: 1 - OSO memo, dated 28 August
2 -  memo, 8 Sept.
3 - Mr.  memo, 11 Sept.

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